

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace, the first paragraph on page 1, lines 8-11 with the following:

The present invention relates to a method for in vitro detection of acute generalized inflammatory conditions (SIRS) ~~according to claim 1 or claim 30~~, sepsis, sepsis-like conditions and systemic infections as well as the use of recombinantly or synthetically prepared nucleic acid sequences or peptide sequences ~~according to claim 57~~ derived therefrom.